

CHAPTER 2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

[Prior to 9/24/86 see Industrial Commissioner[500]]

[Prior to 1/29/97 see Industrial Services Division[343]]

873—2.1(86) Extending time and continuances. For good cause the industrial commissioner or the commissioner's designee may modify the time to comply with any rule.

873—2.2(85A,85B,86,87) Applicability. When appropriate, all rules shall apply to Iowa Code chapters 85A, 85B, 86 and 87 as well as chapter 85.

873—2.3(86,87) Representative within the state. All licensed insurers, foreign and domestic, insuring workers' compensation and all employers relieved from insurance pursuant to Iowa Code section 87.11 shall designate one or more persons geographically located within the borders of this state, which person or persons shall be knowledgeable of the Iowa Workers' Compensation Law and Rules and shall be given the authority and have the responsibility to expedite the handling of all matters within the scope of Iowa Code chapters 85, 85A, 85B, 86, and 87.

The Iowa industrial commissioner shall be advised by letter of the name, address, and telephone number of each of the persons so designated. Any change in the identity, address or telephone number of the persons so designated shall be reported to the Iowa industrial commissioner within ten days after such change occurs.

873—2.4(85) Guides to evaluation of permanent impairment. The Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment published by the American Medical Association are adopted as a guide for determining permanent partial disabilities under Iowa Code section 85.34(2) "a" to "s." The extent of loss or percentage of permanent impairment may be determined by use of this guide and payment of weekly compensation for permanent partial scheduled injuries made accordingly. Payment so made shall be recognized by the industrial commissioner as a prima facie showing of compliance by the employer or insurance carrier with the foregoing sections of the Iowa Workers' Compensation Act. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to prevent the presentations of other medical opinions or guides for the purpose of establishing that the degree of permanent impairment to which the claimant would be entitled would be more or less than the entitlement indicated in the AMA guide.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 85.34(2).

873—2.5(85,85A,85B,86,87) Electronic filing. Unless specifically prohibited by another rule, the industrial commissioner may approve an electronic method of filing forms, reports and information with the agency.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 86.8 and 86.11.

873—2.6(85,85A,85B,86) Reports to employees. An employer or its insurance carrier filing a final claim activity report with the industrial commissioner (see 873—subrules 3.1(2) and 3.1(3)) shall also mail a copy to the employee at the employee's last-known address.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 85.26, 86.8, 86.11 and 86.13.

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